THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The rates of royalty on coal have been revised w.e.f. 1-8-91 from an average of Rs. 5.30 per tonne to an average of Rs. 70- per tonne for coal produced in all States except Assam and West Bengal.

Privatisation of Coal mining industry

457. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the profits and losses of various coal mines of the public sector during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have proposed to privatise coal mining industry; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The profit/loss of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as under:—

(Rs. in Crores) Profit=(+) Loss=(—)

Company	Profit/Loss during 1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
CIL.....	( )23.26	(+)80.13	(—)253.17
SCCL	(+)5.48	(—)35.72	(—)163.19

(b) and (c) There is at present no proposal to privatise coal mining industry.

Joint-Sector Company to exploit lignite resources at Jayamkondam in Tamil Nadu

458. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for clearance from the Government of Tamil Nadu to exploit the lignite resources at Jayamkondam in Tamil Nadu through a joint sector power generating company; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Government's no objection in principle, to the exploitation of lignite reserves in Jayamkondam area, outside the leasehold area of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, for generation of power by State Government undertaking has been conveyed.

Impact of Developments in the USSR on the on-going coal projects

459. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) wheather any essessment has been made about the impact of

developments in Soviet Union on the on-going projects of Coal India Ltd.;

(b) what would be the cost and time overrun in completion of coal project at Singareni Coalfields; and

(c) what steps are being taken to fill up the gap between demand and availability of coal in the Eighth Plan period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) There are three on-going coalmining projects *viz.* Khadia Opencast (Northern Coalfields Ltd.), Nigahi Opencast (Northern Coalfields Ltd.) and Jhanjra Underground (Eastern Coalfields Ltd.) and one non-mining project viz.Modernisation of Patherdih Washery (Bharat Coking Co. 1 Ltd.) cf Coal India Ltd., financed by the erstwhile USSR. The recent events in USSR have created certain uncer-tainities in the supply of equipment as well as spare parts for Soviet manufactured equipment. However, it is not likely that this will have serious adverse effect on the implementation of these projects, as negotiations would be held with successor Govts.

(b) No cost and time overrun is presently anticipated in the completion of the on-going Goleti—182 longwall project of Singareni Coalfields under bilateral cooperation with the erstwhile Soviet Union.

(c) As per Planning Commission's recent assessment the country's raw coal demand by 1996-97, the terminal year of the Eigth Plan, is estimated at 309.20 million tonnes. The total raw coal production of the country in 1996-97 is tentatively projected at 306.00 Million tonnes. The gap between demand and avail ability of coal in the Eighth Plan period is proposed to be met by drawal from pithead Stoeks and in case of coking coal for steel plants by imports for blending purposes.

Adequate linkages of coal to the Gujarat Electricity Board

460. SHRI VITHALBHAI M-PATEL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) Whether it is a fact that per month requirement cf the Gujarat Electricity Board for coal is about 10 lakhs M.T. for its fourThefme 1 Power Stations;

(b) whether State Government has given representation for giving adequate linkages of coal to its power houses keeping in view the power generation requirements of the State ; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRl S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) Based on the annual generation targets for the year,1991-92 finalised with Centrat Electricity Authority by Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB), the average monthly coal require ment for the four thermal power stations of GEB works out 7.9 lakh tonnes. As against this monthly requirement, tht average monthly coal despatches to these power station during the period April January, 1992 had been of the order of 6.66 lakh tonnes which works out 84.3% demand satisfaction.

(b) and (c) The power stations authorities have been requesting for increased linkages. The increase in linkages may not necessarily been higher receipts. The materialisation of linkages vis-a-vis the consumption level of power stations are monitored on weekly basis and corrective action taken wherever necessary.

Government's investment in Coal Sector

461. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) What is the number of coal mines operating in public sector ;

(b) what has been the total investment made by Government so far, in ail these coal mines as compared to 1990-91 year ;

(c) what has been the amount of lean taken from outside agencies, so far, investment therein indicating the interest being paid annualy thereon; and

(d) what was the amount of pro fit/loss earned by the coal sector during 1991-92 as compared to 1990-91 year ?